

* Second woman sentenced in drug scheme

Shoe sole used to smuggle into jail

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A second woman was sentenced in connection with a scheme to smuggle heroin into the Sullivan County House of Corrections.

Unity Morgan Hurley, 24, was sentenced in Sullivan County Superior Court last week to 60 days in jail after pleading guilty to the misdemeanor charge of articles prohibited. She was given pre-trial confinement credit of 60 days.

According to court documents, Hurley received a pack-

et of heroin hidden inside the sole of a shoe that was given to her as a gift on Dec. 23. She and fellow inmate Crystal Blanchette took the drug back to their cell and snorted the illegal substance.

Blanchette, 27, of Pleasant Street in Newport, received the same sentence as Hurley, but was also sent to prison for between two years and 265 days to seven years for violating her probation.

Sullivan County Attorney Marc Hathaway said Monday his office prosecuted the two women.

"There is still an ongoing investigation into this matter," Hathaway said.

Officials were first made aware of the drug use when an inmate left a note on the floor outside of a cell indicating the

pair had drugs.

When officers found the note they discovered Hurley scrubbing her new sneakers in a sink.

A search turned up no illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia, but a urinalysis determined the two women had illegal drugs in their systems.

Jail superintendent Ross Cunningham has said this was the first incident of this type at the jail since he started working there last year. He said he has put measures in place to try to keep it from happening again.

Blanchette is currently serving her sentence at the New Hampshire State Prison for Women and Hurley is being held in Cheshire County on unrelated charges.

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